

# THE BELL RINGER



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## Spaghetti Supper Changes

Lee Hampton

On Friday, October 13 the MBA Mothers Club will host the 51st annual spaghetti supper in the Currey Gymnasium, with Mrs. June Bowen, who taught English at MBA for many years, as honorary chair. The 1995 spaghetti supper differs substantially from its predecessors in the preparation and service of the food.

The mothers are no longer required to prepare food for the supper. Instead, each student paid a \$17 fee at registration which will pay for the preparation services of the Gardener-Merchant Company, the same company which manages the MBA cafeteria. The source of the food has been changed for several reasons, according to Mrs. Beth Alexander, co-chairman of the spaghetti supper along with Mrs. Gina Corts. The crowd served at the supper has increased over the past several years, making the supper logistics more difficult. Also, hiring a company to prepare the food reduces health risks and makes the food as a whole more uniform. Mrs. Alexander said that

"moms don't have time anymore to spend time in the kitchen." Last year, about 70% of MBA mothers used caterers to meet their food quotas. Mrs. Alexander believed that the \$17 fee saves families money since

year rather than 9th grade boys and girls. Mrs. Alexander stated that the planners originally intended to use the Freshmen again, but "the Big Red Club has volunteered to be beverage servers and we've taken them up on it." Mr.

Regen also stated that he randomly picked the helpers from the Big Red Club members who do not play football.

Mrs. Alexander stated, "we've added [to the bake sale] a component called the 'MBA Gourmet'." The MBA Gourmet will be taking orders for holiday baked goods and gift pastries. The bake sale, which Mrs. Alexander said operates with almost 100% profit, will continue to sell goods baked by mothers. Since the High School mothers are no longer expected to provide food for the supper, the Mothers Club hopes that more mothers will help make food for the bake sale.

The money raised by the spaghetti supper, the sale of Homecoming T-shirts designed by Michael Griffin, and the bake sale will be distributed by the Allocations committee of the Mothers Club with the approval of the Club's board. This Allocations committee consists of Mr. Gioia, Mrs. Nene Gunn, President of the Mothers Club, Mrs. Patsy Weigel, Chairwoman of

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The Mother's Club's hard work fills these tables every year.

the fee is "probably less than the Regen explained "Mr. Gioia groceries [to make the food from scratch] cost."

The Big Red Club will be providing all of the beverage servers and clean-up help this

Regen explained "Mr. Gioia asked me to try to make the Big Red Club more of a spirited presence on campus, and I thought that helping at the spaghetti supper would help do that." Mr.

## 14 Seniors Earn Recognition For PSAT Scores

Benjamin Purser



Recognized students: Back: Deji Okedeji, Mark Pettus, and Chris Allen; Middle: Jeremy Langlois, David Gregory, Chris Allen, and Benjamin Purser; Front: Eric Compton, Beau Tidwell, David Kautzman, and Marshall Kirksey  
Not Pictured: Bill Maggart, T. Eddie Sisk, and Michael Yoon

Gregory, David Kautzman, Marshall Kirksey, Jeremy Langlois, Bill Maggart, Mark Pettus, Benjamin Purser, T. Eddie Sisk, Beau Tidwell, and Michael Yoon. Also, the National Achievement Scholarship Program for Outstanding Negro Students commended Deji Okedeji for his score on the PSAT.

MBA normally does well on this test. For example, in 1990, 9.6 percent of the senior class ranked as National Merit Semi-Finalists; in 1991 and 1992 the numbers remained similar, with 8.8 and 9.8 percent. In 1994, the percent of National Merit Semi-Finalists dropped to

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## Opinions

## On Honor . . .

Evan Chen

Having heard Will Parson's speech about honor during assembly, I figured that it was time a non-Honor Council member expressed his views. Without doubt, the vast majority of the student body is honorable, which is why teachers trust students to make up tests in the library or walk across the campus without being stopped by teachers for a pass. Since the students enjoy these privileges, they try very hard to show their honor and integrity. But what about those students who do cheat, lie, and act without honor? They are not evil people, necessarily, but simply a little misguided.

According to the Honor Council President, about half of the cases the council receives each year concern people who have cheated. In the instances that I have been told about, people cheat because they are too lazy or indifferent to do their own work or because they do not know enough about the work in order to complete it. For those that are too lazy or indifferent, one solution may be to have the students start the work in the last two or three minutes of class or to tell the students that they may have to explain

the assignment in class the next day without opening their books or looking at the papers. But for those who do not know enough about the homework to do it, a different approach must be taken. It could be argued that they are too lazy to seek out the teacher for help. But in a majority of the cases in which cheating occurred, junior school stu-

ents that the teacher to repeatedly remind the students that he or she is willing to answer questions but not do the homework. Also, it would be a good idea for there to be tutors available after school or during activity period to help these kids understand the homework. After all, the school does have tutors for the Boy's and Girl's Club and YMCA. These after-school tutors ought not be all seniors or juniors but other students of different grades without any teachers. This would greatly reduce the intimidation factor and, in the absence of teachers, the students receiving help would not feel stigmatized or marked as deficient.

This would not eliminate all the people who cheat, but it would give an incentive not to do so. Already there is the 7:30 - 7:45 period before school for students to receive help from teachers. As for the tutors, there are pretty smart Honor Council members from each grade. Maybe they should be those tutors. That way they would actually participate in the process of creating honorable students, instead of simply judging the dishonorable ones.

**From the Annals  
of W-5:**  
"The guilty mind  
knows no peace"  
-Juvenal

dents were involved. This could imply that the students are too timid or too afraid of the teacher to approach him or her for aid. I can remember that when I was in seventh grade, I would prefer to think about the homework for a long while or even to miss part of it just to avoid accosting the teacher for help. One way this fear could be ameliorated

## . . . and Tradition

Chris Allen

Although I usually take up my pen to comment on national and international issues, I was compelled to comment on a local one: the changes in this year's Spaghetti Supper. There have been two substantial changes for this year's supper, and I'll comment on both.

The change that most of us became aware of first was the fact that this year the decision was made to have everyone simply pay a \$17 fee so that the food could just be purchased all at once without the mothers having to cook it. Now, I suppose that there are some mothers out there who love to cook, and I

think that's great. However, I'm certain that there are many more mothers out there that, though they certainly would cook if asked to, would prefer to have someone else do it for them. In this way, the mothers are saved from the hassle of having to prepare the food, and we students are spared the trouble of bringing in bags of noodles, sauce, or whatever it is that our mothers spent the previous night preparing. And, if I recall correctly, when this payment plan was an option in the past, many mothers availed themselves of this opportunity. Besides the added convenience, there are other benefits. For one, the food is uniform. Regardless of how

specific the instructions that the Mothers Auxiliary provides may be, there is simply no way to have everyone make the exact same thing. Also, though I'm not suggesting that anyone's food is unsanitary, I'm sure that the old method must have been in violation of at least a few health codes. The complaint that I, as a senior, have with this policy is that this year was to be the first that we didn't have to bring anything. With this in mind, why did we still have to pay the fee? Couldn't the new policy have been "grandfathered" in some way? Though some seem to think that this change is an atrocious break with tradition, I tend to think that this change will be very well met (except, perhaps, by seniors and their mothers)

Another change that has been made which many, myself included, think is a significant and unwanted break from tradition is that this year the freshmen will be replaced as the servers for the Spaghetti Supper. Instead, this task is going to fall to the Big Red Club, which is trying to assert itself as a viable entity on campus. Certainly, the Big Red Club has lain dormant for too long, but is now the best time to revive it? And if so, is this the proper way to revive it? The job of serving at the Spaghetti Supper has long been the duty, nay privilege, of the freshman class, and I can see no good reason to

**Good Luck  
to Coach Bowers  
the Big Red.**

**Crush the  
Cobras!**

**Courtesy of Whitson  
Lumber Company**

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Managing Matt Reasor  
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change it. I know that many students share in this opinion (though I haven't spoken with any freshmen about it), and would certainly hope that the freshmen are allowed to partake in this grand tradition. Why not compromise, and just have the freshman members of the Big Red Club serve, so that everyone will be happy?

In the end, these decisions are the Mothers Auxiliary's to make, and I am sure that they will make good choices. After all, new traditions have to be started somewhere, although, as we all know, old traditions die hard.

## News

## Library Renovation Planning Begins

Arun Anandaiah

MBA plans to renovate the Patrick Wilson Library significantly during the summer of 1996. Although the building is in good condition, it has not been extensively altered since its construction in 1968. The building will receive a physical facelift, with an emphasis on expanding work space, and increasing the technology available to students.

This project is to be funded solely by a generous donation from the family of Patrick Wilson. The current library is the gift of Mrs. Justin Potter in the memory of her grandson, who died

in an auto accident in 1967. Mr. Weaver explained that "The Wilson family is anxious to see that the library continues to be a center of learning and activity on campus."

Modernizing the facility and installing new equipment are the primary objectives of this project. Mr. Gioia stated that the library "needs a technological update to make it more user-friendly, and to assure that students and faculty have what they need." All new computers to be installed in the renovated library will be PC compatible machines, in accordance with the

systems used for admissions, academic records, and the main office. With the emphasis on technological renovation, Mr. Gioia believes that the creation of a new position for a technological advisor knowledgeable of PC-compatible computers is inevitable.

Many of the details of this project are still under consideration. At this point, the ultimate design has not been finalized. The architect, Mr. Kim Hinton, who designed the Davis Building, the Sloan Quadrangle, as well as the renovations of the Ball Building, Wallace Hall, and the Debate Building, visited the campus on October 3 to begin to formulate possible plans. The Building and Grounds Committee, made up of members of the Board of Trustees, will be heavily involved in the renovation process. In addition, a committee made up of three students, seven teachers, and members of the Wilson family was formed on Tuesday, October 3rd, to determine what features should be incorporated in the renovated library. As with the construction of the Davis Building, especially the

Paschall Theater, other leading college preparatory schools will be visited so that the faculty can see first hand how other comparable facilities are being optimized. Mr. Gioia hopes that all plans can be finalized by January, 1996, and construction can begin by June with a completion goal of the start of 1996-97 school year.

The next project on MBA's strategic plan is a completely new building for the sciences. A new science building would bring state-of-the-art facilities to MBA science students as well as allow the current lab space in the basement of the Currey Gymnasium to be used for additional athletic facilities. This includes expansion of the locker rooms, an area for cardiovascular training, and moving the rifle team practices from Frist Hall to the gym. Currently, Mr. Gioia is visiting other science facilities in order to determine the best model for MBA's use. Construction may not begin for some time, but the MBA campus continues to expand.

## National Merit Awards

(continued from page one)

4.9 percent, and last year, MBA rebounded to its highest level in several years at 14.8 percent. This year, only 2.6 percent (including McClure) earned this recognition. Mr. Gioia does not think that this year's percentage should be a concern. He draws attention away from the low percentage of National Merit Semi-Finalists, emphasizing that this year's scores were reflective of a class with a stronger base because most of the scores were grouped in the "upper-middle." "We [this senior class] will probably have a very similar SAT average [to last year's class] despite the differences in number of Semi-Finalists, because... there are fewer who scored at the bottom than last year."

Mr. Patrick attributes these scores to a stronger testing pool. Semi-Finalists are selected on a state-by-state basis, and he believes that the pool in Tennessee was particularly strong this year. Mr. Patrick does not think that the paucity of high scores was due to any failure of MBA. "SAT's were only designed to predict the [college] freshman's performance. The PSAT was only intended to predict performance on the SAT's... and now these tests [PSAT's] are being used as a sign of the academic rigor of schools... these tests can not stand for that."

Mr. Gioia remarked that these numbers are not necessarily an accurate reflection of MBA or its student body's intelligence: "It would be wrong to draw con-

clusions... since we do not specifically teach for the SAT [or, therefore, for the PSAT], but it is our responsibility to make everyone aware of the test." Mr. Gioia believes that the school should "educate... and familiarize the families with the nature of the tests - to try and make people feel as comfortable and knowledgeable about them as possible."

Mr. Patrick said that "The school would like for the boys to prepare and perform at the appropriate level..." MBA does a lot to help its students do just that. The Summer School offerings expanded in 1995 to include SAT preparation courses. Mr. Lanier and Mrs. Palmore taught the math and verbal sections. Mr. Patrick stresses that an MBA student need not take these classes to earn high scores: "...Prep courses can be useful for some... but it is also true that the PSAT gives out free test booklets to use... It is possible to raise scores with what we already have at the school, practice tests, guide books, computer software, etc."

Through several channels, the school prepares the students for these tests. This year's statistics are not as high as they have been in the past, but the fact remains that out of seventy-seven people, we had one semi-finalist, and thirteen others recognized for their performance. MBA is proud of its students and their accomplishments.

## Spaghetti Supper Changes

(continued from page one)

the Allocations Committee, and several other parents. Mrs. Weigel stated, "The Allocations Committee, after receiving all the requests submitted by the [MBA faculty], designates the recommended areas to receive funds for the year. These recommendations are presented to the executive board and board of the Mothers Club for approval." After the recommendations are approved, the Club sends a letter to each MBA family which describes the distribution of the money.

Mr. Gioia stated that the committee attempts to balance the school's needs, resources, and previous allocations when deciding which requests are granted. He stated that if a department received a large amount of money one year, it receives less the next year. Mr. Gioia also said that the club spends the money "to benefit students, faculty, program, and the school as a whole." Last year, the Club provided \$38,362, for a multitude of goods, including a Macintosh computer for the debate program, a Sony View camcorder for the Athletics department, backpacking equipment for the Outdoor club, a projection screen for the English department, a pug mill for the Arts department, and desktop publishing equipment for the *Bell* and *Bell Ringer*.

Although changes have been made on the supper, it is still essentially an event which helps MBA raise money and whip up school spirit. Mr. Gioia stated that it's a "very important community event, [which] provides services for teachers and the school." I thank Mrs. Gunn, Mrs. Alexander, Mrs. Tate, Mr. Regen, Mrs. Weigel, and Mr. Gioia for assisting me with this article.

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## Entertainment

## Requiem To Hannibal Smith

T. "Crazy Eddie" Sisk

I was over at the Pink Ranger's house, and while she was resting up, I began to ponder the deeper meanings of existence as we know it. It was only then that I realized that we as a collective generation of Americans had lost something in our lives; a void had been created that could never be filled again. I realized that we had lost the A-Team. Yes, the A-Team—that wise-cracking group of hardcore mercenaries that in six seasons as outlaw veterans tore across the screen to fight for the little guy, Mom, and Apple Pie. They were a fixture in my life and yours. We all wanted to be like them as kids. Well, except for Face. All he ever did was get the girls, he never built anything cool.

Hannibal, B.A., Face, and Howling Mad Murdock were role models for an entire generation of Americans; they were characters who truly agreed with the Reagan era credo, "Surrender or we'll blow you up." Think about it, every episode was virtually the same: A-Team contacts people in

distress, A-Team confronts bad guys, Hannibal gets a plan. Finally, cut to shot of B.A. with a blowtorch for no good reason, and BAM! A-Team beats the bad guys with a homemade tank. What was the coolest part about the show? The stuff they built to the tune of that neato theme music. Just give B.A. some sheet metal, some chewing gum, a shoelace, and a '73 Ford Pinto and he could make an armored vehicle that could survive a nuclear strike.

That's the thing I never could understand. The villains must have known that they had a highly trained special forces unit on their hands, and yet, what did they do? They didn't shoot them, (no that would make too much sense); they lock them up, in, of all places, a machine shop. No way they could break their way out of there, never! You would think that after a while these guys would get the message that this was not a good idea. Well, you know what they say, "Good will always triumph because evil is stupid."

That was the entire point of the show. You knew who wore the white hats and who wore the black

ones. You knew that good would triumph in the end. We've lost that in society today. I'm not saying that good will always win, that would be ignorant. But I am saying that we as a society need that kind of faith in our heroes. Today, that kind of faith has been replaced; and you all know what it's been replaced by... Sit-Coms. Contemporary television has also given us cheap ways to explore the duality of the darkness in man's soul—all in one hour. Listen all you morons, you want to explore the duality of man... read! But don't ever turn to T.V. as intellectually stimulating. T.V. is there to entertain us, to evoke a response in us, or just to keep us on the edge of our seats for a little while. In no way is it supposed to make you think. "N.Y.P.D. Blue" or "Murder One" is not the solution to America's intellectual degradation. I don't find Dennis Franz's butt all that stimulating. We've lost the heroes of our bygone years: Hannibal, Hunter, Starsky, Hutch, Crockett, and Tubs.

The sense of black and white, of right and wrong, is gone; these absolutes have been replaced with a shade of gray in all our idols. All our heroes are nothing more than that—a shade of gray; and that's the real problem with America, we have nothing left to hold on to. We have no real heroes left. Hannibal, wherever you are, we miss you; we need you back. You may choose to listen or not. You know I am right, but it's time for me to go. She's gotten her strength back up.

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or of the staff.

**Seniors:**  
Remember to  
turn in your Bios  
by October 17.

The Way Things  
Ought To Be

Jack Troutt

It is often said that art imitates life. Artists strive to depict reality, and to find truth in man's existence. Many people would agree with this assumption. However, when the cinema is examined, it seems detached from reality, almost utopian. This lack of reality in film comes from the ending. That is why I propose new endings to a few well known flicks.

*Rocky I + II* - Let's be honest, some slow moron isn't going to go 15 rounds with the heavyweight champion of the world. A better ending would be Rocky pulling a Peter McNeely, and losing after 30 seconds of punishment from Apollo Creed. Rocky would make one million dollars for fighting Apollo.

*Forrest Gump* - The spirit of America centers around work and success due to that effort. Forrest Gump is a fool drifting through life, finding fame and fortune wherever he roams, thus violating the American dream. In my ending, Forrest trades his shrimp empire for a bag of "magic beans," and dies a bitter and confused old man.

*Lassie, Far from Home*, and all those other cheery "boy and his dog" stories - Let's face it, the only real reason dogs feign loyalty is because we feed them. I don't think Lassie really cares if Timmy falls into a well, as long as the dog gets its bowl of Purina Puppy Chow™. My ending: Lassie gets run over by an 18-wheeler.

*The Sound of Music* - That annoying Von Trapp family, predecessor to the Partridge family, can't seem to keep its collective mouth shut. They live in Nazi Germany, but find joy in singing outside the Reichstag. In my version, the Von Trapp family discovers the honor of the totalitarian society they live in, when they are "reeducated" by the Gestapo.

*Outbreak* - Hey, guess what? Cures to hemorrhagic fevers aren't found within 24 hours of outbreak, even if Dustin Hoffman and Cuba Gooding Jr. are on the case. These are two more realistic

(continued on page five)

## Go Big Red!

Courtesy  
of Manning  
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## SALUTES



T. Eddie Sisk is senior class president, Captain of the Policy Debate Team, member of Totomoi, and this year's Wallace Scholar.

## Golf Team Drives To Success

David McDowell

With a record of 14-2, this year's MBA Golf team has been the most successful since 1992. The team lost to Clarksville and Father Ryan, each by a single stroke. Now that the regular season has ended, the team looks to the district, region, and state tournaments for domination. Coach Caldwell commented, "We've had a very successful season to this point with a 14-2 record. I just hope we can continue our success in tournament play, so we can advance to State." The district tournament will be played at McCabe golf course on October 2. The top three teams of the district advance to the region tournament which is played at Shelby on October 9. The winner of the region tournament advances to state. The goal for the '95 team is to move to the State tournament which no MBA



*The MBA Golf Team is: (back) Mr. Caldwell, Harrisson, King, Bodzy, Estes, Sturtevant, (front) Shea, McDowell, Judy, Hillenmeyer, Teague, Snedecker*

team has done in two years. The team has great confidence going into tournament play, as senior Elliot Teague explains: "We have enough talent on our team to scare every team at state, if we all play well." The '95 golf team is lead by seniors Elliot Teague and David McDowell, as well as freshman sensations Brandt Snedecker and Noble Judy. Mathew Wallace and Morgan Hillenmeyer have emerged as competitors and will be participating in tournament play. Other notables are seniors Ben Bodzy and David Glassford. Students participating in matches include Bryan Sturtevant, Ryan Shea, Miller Harrison, Daniel Estes, and Wesley King. With this team, MBA has great potential and hopes to advance to the State Tournament.

## Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Resuscitated by MBA Theatre Staff

Judging by the recent performance by M.B.A.'s theater group, The Civil War Chess set, Rosencrantz and Guildenstern (or is that Guildenstern and Rosencrantz?) are alive and well and living in Nashville. From September 28th to October 1st Tom Stoppard's *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead* played to large and responsive crowds in the Douglas D. Paschall Theater. The play, which made Tom Stoppard's reputation, shows few signs of age since its first performance at the Edinburgh Festival in the 1960s. Impressively directed by senior Tidwell, the play included performances by a talented cast of young actors.

Perched on the edge of the story of *Hamlet*, Rosencrantz and Guildenstern spend three acts off-stage and waiting for an entrance. As the audience, we seem to be witnessing their off-stage actions and overhearing their conversations. From the opening scene in which they meet a group of players on route to Elsinore (where's that?) they spend the bulk of the drama flip-

ping coins to test the theory of probability, playing word games, wondering about the motivations of their childhood friend Hamlet, and watching the actions of other more familiar Shakespearean characters (Polonius, Claudius, Gertrude, and Laertes). Like us, the audience, they are hopelessly confused; and this bemusement ultimately draws us together. Occasionally they make sallies into the larger play of *Hamlet*, desperately and pathetically trying to fulfill their charge (to discover the cause of Hamlet's madness). But mostly they talk... and talk, and talk. Like characters in plays by other modernist writers (especially those by Harold Pinter), they are characters defined almost exclusively by language. Their conversation is full of puns and non-sequiturs, and the language is playful, if fiendishly difficult. The performances of junior Sam Limor and seniors Jim Rich and Rob Hancock are even more impressive when seen in this light.

In the wonderful role of the Player Rob Hancock "clearly did a lot

to energize the show," says Whiteman; but he remarks that "Sam Limor and Jim Rich rose to particularly great heights in these roles." The entire cast performed at a high level, though a few lines were inaudible to the audience. Other notable performances were turned in by Greg LaVigne as Hamlet, Adam Laughbaum as Claudius, and Sam O'Connell as Polonius. The players provided welcome moments of physical comedy, especially in the pantomimed play within a play. But the play belongs to Rosencrantz and Guildenstern; and Limor and Rich provided these nearly anonymous characters with life and originality. They succeeded in making their characters more than the tragic footnotes of *Hamlet*.

Imaginatively staged by Beau Tidwell, and with a stage set by art teacher Matt Pedersen and lighting by sophomore Alan Halachmi, the play took on great life. Mr. Whiteman says the play "exceeded expectations... particularly as it was one of the first major plays directed by a student." He asks rhetorically, "What other student director around Nashville is doing a play at this level of sophistication and pulling it off?"

Director Beau Tidwell sees this production as a chance to develop new actors for the future. "This play was wonderful to work on," he says, "and it was great to see the emergence of new talent which I hope will contribute to other productions this year." Although the play

remains difficult, the audiences received it well. It is refreshing to see that the students of the club continue to take on such challenging material and succeed.

*Ought to be... (cont. from p4)*  
scenarios. First, there's the pleasant possibility of a plague decimating the U.S.. Second, and more feasible, the U.S. could have blown up the town. Why is the second scenario more feasible? Because, as everybody knows, the government will do anything to cover its butt.

These are certainly only a few examples of new endings, but they serve a purpose: to make you, the consumer, more aware of how sappy, and insipid movies have become. Additionally, if my editing has made one person more cynical, I feel as though I've accomplished something.

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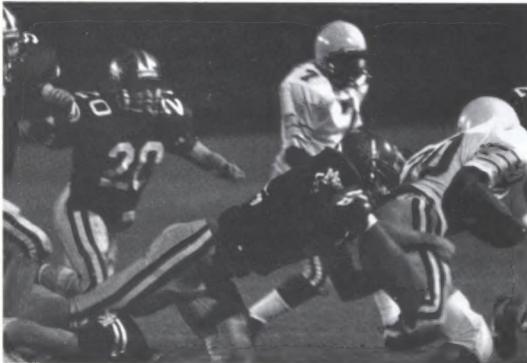
## Sports

## Big Red Football Still On a Hot Streak

Matthew Berry

After losing its first region game at Clarksville Northeast, the Big Red was in a "must win situation" for its first home game against Hunters Lane. The team capitalized on a Hunters Lane turnover and took it in for a touchdown, and a win. down the warrior's offense, and then capping off a relatively uncontested drive with a three yard, Leland Prevost touchdown run. Although the team started well, it could only muster a field goal for the rest of the first half. The Big Red went into the locker room down by 3 points. Hunters Lane struck first in the

The Big Red next traveled into the hostile environment of Henry County, MBA's third tough region game in a row. MBA came out victorious in this tough fought game. The Big Red was paced by Max Fuller, who scored two touchdowns and had over 300 yards. The



The Big Red defense swarms Northeastern on the way to a 7-0 win.



Max points the offense in a winning direction.

Defense provided the pivotal moment in the game when they stopped a Henry County drive on the fourth down with less than 3 minutes in the game.

The team then returned to the friendly confines of Tommy Owen Stadium, to host their fourth region opponent in a row. Although MBA fumbled the ball four times, they escaped with a seven to nothing win, in a relatively sloppy game. Most recently, the Big

Red traveled to Dickson County, for yet another crucial region game. MBA started the scoring with a spectacular touchdown pass from Bill McGugin to Paul Russell, and held on to win, 13-6. MBA is 4-1 in the region and is still in the fight for the region crown. The football team thanks all the fans for their tremendous support, and look forward to seeing the masses cheering at homecoming.

## Cross Country Team Makes Great Strides

Scott Bowen

The Cross-Country team has gone international to reach its goal of a regional championship. Stephan Schirmer, directly from a small track club in Krefeld, Germany, has immediately made an impact in the Nashville Cross-Country scene. In his first three big meets, "The German Juggernaut" has cut over three minutes off his time, and is currently under 17:00 for the three mile race. "I am not used to running six times a week, or racing every weekend," said Schirmer, but he has nonetheless adjusted perfectly.

Inspired by Schirmer's improvement, many other runners have cut their times. Hunter Verner already cut nearly three minutes off his time. Chris Jones, Stephen Wall, and David Dean have moved up substantially on the Depth Chart. Also, the three senior captains have finished near the top of all metro finishers in big meets thus far. Most importantly, thanks to all these great performances, the team, as a unit, has improved

greatly, moving within points of the favored Father Ryan team.

There are several reasons for the team's improvement over the last few weeks. The team took on a new attitude after an unsuccessful first meet. With no runners under 17:20, the team redefined its goals. Less than a week later, in the biggest meet ever held in Tennessee, almost every runner drastically improved: the team placed six runners under 17:20. A final reason for the improvement is the incredible fan support. At the A.F. Bridges, thirty excited fans armed with flags, body paint, and a dog suit propelled the team to an eighth place finish (out of fifty-six teams). Most recently, the team travelled to Lexington, KY. to compete against teams from Ohio and Kentucky. The Varsity squad won only its second Lexington victory in ten tries. Also, the J.V. placed a solid fourth. The team now heads into the "real season," with the Metro, Region and State meets in the next month.



James finds enough energy to outpace the Oak Ridge leader/hair stylist.

**Bell Ringer**  
4001 Harding Road  
Nashville, Tennessee 37215

Patrick Wilson Library  
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